कोयले के मूल्य में वृद्धि

5816. **प्रो० राम बख्श सिंह वर्मा:** क्या कोयला मंत्री 27 मार्च, 1995 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 1974 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने हाल ही में कोयले के मूल्य में वृद्धि की है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

कोयला राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा): (क) और (ख) कोल इंडिया लि० (को०इं०लि०) और सिंगरेनी कोलियरीज कम्पनी लि० (सिं०को०के०लि०) द्वारा उत्पादित किए जाने वाले कोयले की कीमत से सरकार द्वारा अंतिम बार दि० 17-6-1994 से वृद्धि किए जाने की अनुमति दी गई थी, जो कि निम्नलिखित रूप में की गई थी:—

	कोयले कीदि० 17-6-94 पूर्व मेंसे कोयले की औसत कीमत (रु० प्र०ट०)	बढ़ी औसत कीमत (रु० प्र०ट०)	प्रतिशत वृद्धि
को०इं०लि०	381.00	401.00	5.25%
सिं०को०कं०लि०	482.00	503.00	4.36%

कोयले की कीमतों में वृद्धि किया जाना इसलिए आवश्यक हो गया था चूंकि विभिन्न आयतों के सूचकांक में वृद्धि हो गई थी और इसे सारांशिकृत किया जाना अपेक्षित था।

Grading of coal as vendible/non-vendible

5817. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) which agency is doing grading of coal as vendible or otherwise;

(b) whether this agency is independent of Coal India Limited and/or Ministry of Coal;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) which are the other countries in the world where coal with 55 per cent ash is being graded as vendible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) As per Colliery Control Order, 1945, the Central Government, through the price notification, prescribes the grades into which coal is categorised.

(d) High ash content coals as well as washery rejects are reported to be utilised in fluidised bed combustion boilers for power generation in countries like France, Germany, USA etc.

Demand of Coal by the end of the Eighth Plan

5818. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the projected demand for coal in the country especially for the States of Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat by the end of the Eighth Plan period;

(b) whether Government have formulated any special scheme to meet this demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Demand of coal is not assessed State-wise. The demand is assessed industry/sector-wise for the whole country. Projected demand of coal in the country by the terminal year of 8th Plan i.e. 1996-97, in terms of raw coal, is 311.00 million tonnes.

(b) to (d) The above demand, is proposed to be met from the following sourcess:

Source	(in million tonnes)
Coal India Ltd.	263.60
Singareni Collieries Co. Limited	30.20
Others	6.20
Imports	6.00
Drawdun of stocks	5.00
TOTAL	311.00

Steps taken to meet the demand in the country, *inter-alia*, include opening of new mines, modernisation of existing mines, application of new technology, ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities, better capacity utilisation and maintaining good industrial relations.

In addition, Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 has been amended to allow private sector participation in coal mining. This amendment enables companies engaged in power generation, and such other end uses as may be notified by Govt. from time to time, to carry out coal mining. This is in addition to the existing provision enabling companies engaged in the production of iron and steel to carry out coal mining.

Average cost and time overrun for projects in coal sector

5819. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the average cost overrun per project and the time overrun per project in the coal sector during the Sixth, the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) reasons for higher cost overrun and time overrun per project; and

(c) steps taken by Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Average cost overrun per project and time overrun per project in the coal sector in respect of projects each costing Rs. 20.0 crores and above completed during Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan period (till March, 1995) are given below:—

	Average cost overrun per project (Rs. crores)		Average time overrun per project (Years)	
	As per original sanction	As per revised sanction	As per original sanction	As per revised sanction
Sixth Plan (1980-85)	1.75	—	—	—
Seventh Plan (1985-90)	26.31	0.49	2.00	0.90
Annual Plans (1990-92)	21.82	—	2.55	0.77
Eighth Plan (1992-97) Upto March, 1995.	25.05	—	2.72	0.94

(b) and (c) Main reasons for time overrun of projects in coal sector are delay in acquisition of land and associated rehabilitation problems, adverse geo-mining conditions, delay in supply of equipment and turn-key execution and fund constraints. Factors leading to cost overrun of projects are the normal inflation during the period of construction as the capital cost of a project is estimated on the price level prevailing at the time of sanction, increase of statutory levies and exchange rate variation. The time overrun of projects further adds to cost overrun. Steps taken to contain time overrun of projects are as follows:—

(i) For projects costing more than Rs. 50 crores, 'Advance Action' upto an amount of Rs. 10 crores is sanctioned for undertaking essential initial activities like land acquisition and related rehabilitation of land oustees, forestry and environmental